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FIFTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Church of the Covenant,
PHILADELPHIA.



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OF THE

Church of the Covenant,

PHILADELPHIA.

PRESENTED TO THE CONGREGATION,

MAY, 1872,


BY

THE RECTOR.

PHILADELPHIA:

HENRY B. ASHMEAD, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,
Nos. 1102 & 1104 Sansom Street.

1872.

 The pages of these Annual Reports are printed continuously, so that those who wish to preserve a Complete History of the Church of the Covenant, may have them bound together in book form.

VESTRY.

The following named gentlemen compose the Vestry of the Church of the Covenant, elected on Easter Monday, April 1, 1872.

JOHN P. RHOADS,
Rector's Warden.

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
Accounting Warden.

ALEXANDER KIRKPATRICK,
Secretary.

GEORGE BOYD,
Treasurer of Benevolent Fund.

ROBERT REED,

PAUL G. OLIVER,

JOHN TANGUY,

CHARLES G. SOWER,

DR. WILLIAM GOODELL,

JAMES C. ALLEN,

HOWARD W. SHIPLEY,

WILLIAM SCOTT.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE VESTRY.

COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.

THE RECTOR, *ex officio*.

JOHN P. RHOADS,

JAMES C. ALLEN.

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

ALEXANDER KIRKPATRICK,

JOHN TANGUY,

GEORGE BOYD.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

CHARLES G. SOWER,

ROBERT REED,

HOWARD W. SHIPLEY.

SEXTON.

ROBERT SLOAN.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

MARRIAGES.

I officiated at *fourteen* during the year.

BAPTISMS.

I baptized *twenty-one* infants, and the Rev. DR. CLAXTON *one*, making *twenty-two* in all.

FUNERALS.

Of these there have been *twenty-four* in all; *nineteen* adults and *five* children.

CONFIRMATIONS.

On account of the illness of the Rector the Confirmation had to be deferred. There are consequently no persons to be reported as having through this rite made a profession of their faith in Christ.

Since our last annual report seven of our communicants have been removed by death.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

ALEXANDER KIRKPATRICK, *Superintendent.*

MISS A. C. BISBING, *Secretary.*

HENRY N. WILLIAMS, *Treasurer.*

REUBEN GRIFFITH, *Librarian.*

ALONZO P. BIRCH, *Assistant Librarian.*

This Association meets on the second Monday in January, April, July and October. It has on its roll 6 honorary, 16 contributing, and 43 active members.

In the Sunday-school we have

- 1 Superintendent,
- 2 Librarians,
- 7 Male Teachers,
- 25 Female Teachers,
- 65 Boys in Intermediate School,
- 103 Girls “ “
- 19 In Male Bible-classes,
- 39 In Female Bible-classes,
- 36 Boys in Infant School,
- 36 Girls “ “

Making a total of 35 officers and teachers and 298 scholars, divided into 10 male classes, 16 female, 2 male and 2 female Bible-classes, and the infant school.

A Festival was given to the scholars, on Thursday evening, December 28th, 1871, and on the Sunday following five female scholars received, as a reward for punctual attendance, a handsomely framed certificate; and also six female and five male scholars each received a book for being the next most punctual in their attendance at the Sunday-school.

The Anniversary services were held January 21st, and were conducted by the Rector. The Church was dressed with evergreens. The emblem was a series of arches over the pulpit and reading desks. The words, "The Saviour," were inscribed on the centre arch. "The Wages of Sin is Death" on that to the right, and "The Gift of God is Eternal Life" on the left. Upon a shield, suspended from the middle arch, was inscribed the yearly text, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus." Each class contributed with its Missionary Offering bouquets of flowers, which were arranged as a border round the text on the shield. A gas jet over all, representing the Sun, was lighted up, and added greatly to the appearance of the whole emblem. Altogether it was

one of the most delightful anniversary occasions in the history of the school.

Measures are now being taken to form a Young People's Association in connection with the school, which it is hoped will add to its numbers, and increase its efficiency and usefulness.

Annual Report of the Treasurer of the Sunday-School Association of the Church of the Covenant.

RECEIPTS.

To cash on hand at last report,	.	.	\$82	79
" dues from members,	.	.	74	12
" Christmas Festival,	.	.	37	52
" collection in Church,	.	.	62	33
" contributions for expenses of				
Music, Anniversary, &c.,	.	.	91	63
" being the Anniversary Offerings				
of the classes, and interest on				
deposits during the year,	.	.	479	91
			\$828	30

PAYMENTS.

By cash for Missionary Work of Ameri-				
can Sunday-School Union,	.	.	\$90	00
" Indian Hope,	.	.	50	00
" Woman's Christian Association,			40	00

By cash for Foreign Missions, . . .	\$100 00
“ Evangelical Education Society, . . .	51 16
“ Church of the Crucifixion, . . .	25 00
“ Little Wanderer’s Home, . . .	52 00
“ American Church Missionary Society,	50 00
“ City Missions,	21 75
“ Life-membership in Children’s American Church Missionary Society,	10 00
“ Chorister of the Sunday-school, . . .	100 00
“ expenses of Anniversary and Festival,	74 00
“ Books and Papers for use of Sun- day-school,	164 39
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	\$828 30
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HENRY N. WILLIAMS,

Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DORCAS SOCIETY.

OFFICERS.

President, MRS. C. E. MURRAY.

Vice-President, MRS. GEORGE BOYD.

Treasurer, MISS AMELIA C. BISBING.

Secretary, MISS R. B. RICHARDS.

The time has come for the Annual Report. In sending it forth it is but right to mention how nobly the congregation responded to the cry of distress which came to us from Chicago, that before opening the Dorcas we had forwarded six boxes containing valuable assistance to that scene of disaster.

The Dorcas Society held its annual meeting November 8, 1871.

Since that time we have had nine meetings, and five members have constituted an average attendance.

The epidemic prevailing, the Society did not resume to its usual extent, its work.

One piece of muslin and \$5 was received from one of the Parish, and various articles of comfortable clothing from others.

Thirty-four articles were made and dispensed by the Society. Alpaca for a woman's dress, also 11 yards of calico and 3 yards of Canton flannel were made up by the recipients.

The Branch Dorcas Society held its meetings in the evenings in one of the lower rooms of the church, occurring every two weeks, consisting generally of twelve members.

A box filled with a comfortable supply for a needy missionary, has been forwarded to a distant field in our own country.

May we ever be encouraged to press onward in our work by those choice words, "He that giveth to the poor lendeth unto the Lord."

MISS R. B. RICHARDS,
Secretary.

MISS A. C. BISBING, *Treasurer, in account with the
Dorcas Society of the Church of the Covenant.*

DR.

To balance in Treasury as per last report,	\$33 27
" donations,	14 50
" subscriptions,	13 00
	<hr/>
	\$60 77
	<hr/>

CR.

By cash paid E. A. Pue, for materials, as		
per bill,	\$18	78
" paid Chance & Painter, for ma-		
terials, as per bill,	8	52
" paid Miss R. B. Richards, for needy		
person,	1	00
" paid D. P. Dietrich, for Rubber		
Suit for Missionary,	13	50
" paid Adams' Express, for charges		
on Missionary Box,	2	00
" paid M. L. Bisbing, for shoes,	2	90
By balance in Treasurer's hands,	14	07
		<hr/>
		\$60 77
		<hr/>
To balance in Treasury,	\$14	07

May 1st, 1872.

REPORT OF THE SEWING SCHOOL.

OFFICERS.

MISS GERTRUDE A. CLARKSON, *Superintendent.*

MISS LOUISE S. BIRCH, *Treasurer.*

MISS MARY A. SIMON, *Secretary.*

Owing to the general prevalence of the small pox last winter, it was thought prudent not to resume the sessions of the Sewing School.

Three quilts which were prepared by the scholars last winter, were finished by the teachers and presented to charitable institutions in the city.

MARY A. SIMON,
Secretary.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last report, . . .	\$24 56
Collections and contributions, . . .	791 00
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	\$815 56
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PAYMENTS.

For Domestic Missions, . . .	\$15 00
“ Evangelical Education Society, . . .	248 84
“ Sufferers from Chicago fire,* . . .	317 84
“ Episcopal Hospital, . . .	122 40
“ Convention Fund, . . .	49 15
“ Sunday-School Association, . . .	62 33
	<hr/>
	\$815 56
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GEORGE BOYD;
Treasurer.

* In addition to the above collection for the Chicago sufferers, six large boxes of clothing were forwarded to the Rev. Mr. Cheney, for distribution.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING WARDEN.

The following statement will show the receipts and expenditures for the year ending February 29, 1872.

RECEIPTS.

From Pew Rents,	.	.	\$4,936	68
Less discount for				
prompt payment,			210	42
			<hr/>	\$4,726 26
" Collections and subscriptions to				
make up deficiencies,	.	.	1,282	00
" Collections and subscriptions to				
pay the Ground Rent,	.	.	415	00
" Donations for Music,	.	.	297	20
" Premium on \$1000 United States				
$\frac{5}{20}$ Bond, sold,	.	.	147	50
" Collections for Parish purposes,	.	.	145	08
" " " Convention and				
Episcopal Fund,	.	.	49	15
" Committee on Lectures,	.	.	5	00
" A Member of the Church, a Thank				
Offering,	.	.	10	00
" Discount off a bill for a Ventilator,			4	12
Total Receipts,	.	.	\$7,081	31

PAYMENTS.

For Salary of Rector,	\$2,500 00
“ Pulpit supplies in the absence of the Rector,	50 00
“ Music, Organist, Singers, &c.,	1,308 62
“ Ground Rent,	\$850 00
“ “ “ premium on Gold and Silver,	71 82
	<hr/>
	921 82
“ Salary of Sexton,	600 00
“ Fuel, 25 tons of Coal, \$185 ; Kind- ling Wood, \$11 25,	196 25
“ Repairs to Church Building and Fences,	148 02
“ Repairs to Furnaces,	44 55
“ Premium on \$1000 United States $\frac{5}{16}$ Bond, bought,	126 62
“ Gas,	109 15
“ Insurance on Church Building, Furniture and Organ,	87 00
“ Convention and Episcopal Fund,	75 00
“ Interest on Bonds,	67 58
“ Printing Annual Report and Adver- tising,	53 25
“ Water Rent,	5 00
“ Annual Subscription to Philadel- phia Library Company,	5 00
	<hr/>
Carried forward,	\$6,297 86

Brought forward, . . .	\$6,297 86
For Incidental Expenses—Cutting Grass, Trimming Trees, Wash- ing Surplices, Sash Cord, Brooms, Brushes, &c.,	36 35
	<hr/>
Total Expenses,	\$6,334 21
Add balance due the Accounting War- den, March 1, 1871,	1,976 65
	<hr/>
	\$8,310 86
Deduct Receipts,	7,081 31
	<hr/>
Leaving a balance due the Accounting Warden, March 1, 1872,	<u>\$1,229 55</u>

THE SINKING FUND.

The receipts and expenditures on account of this Fund for the year ending February 29, 1872, were as follows :

1871. March 1st. Balance on hand,	\$2,045 45
1872. Feby. 29th. Received during the	
year,	308 97

1871.	<u>\$2,354 42</u>
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May 1st. Paid Bond No. 12, \$500 00

July 6th. " C. G. Sower's
due bill, . 681 20

Paid Interest on due bill,
from May 5th to July

6th,	7 15	1,188 35
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Leaving a balance in the Fund March

1st, 1872, of	<u>\$1,166 07</u>
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There is now standing against this Fund only two bonds of \$500 each, amounting to \$1000, bearing 6 per cent. interest.

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
Accounting Warden.

The undersigned, Committee on Finance, have examined the books and papers of the Accounting Warden, and find the above abstract to be correct, there being eleven hundred and sixty-six $\frac{07}{100}$ dollars (\$1166 07) in the Sinking Fund, and twelve hundred and twenty-nine $\frac{55}{100}$ (\$1229 55) dollars, due the Accounting Warden from the General Fund.

ROBERT REED,
 HOWARD W. SHIPLEY,
 CH. G. SOWER,
Com. on Finance.

PHILADA., *March* 30, 1872.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts, as exhibited in the Accounting		
Warden's Report,	\$7,081 31
Receipts, as exhibited in the Sinking		
Fund		308 97
" of the Sunday-School Asso-		
ciation,		683 18
" " Communion Fund, .		306 08
" " Benevolent Fund, ex-		
clusive of items in-		
corporated in the		
above reports, .		741 85.
" " Dorcas Society, .		27 50
Total,		<u>\$9,148 89</u>

C. E. M.

CONCLUSION.

It will be seen from the report of the Accounting Warden, that there has been a marked improvement in the financial condition of the Church ; instead of an annual deficiency, there has been a reduction of the deficiency in the general fund of \$747 10.

It will be also observed, that in addition to this material decrease of the general indebtedness, the floating debt of the Church has been diminished to the amount of \$1,188 35, with a balance in this fund of \$1,166 07, which is sufficient to meet all the claims against it ; so that the Sinking Fund has virtually accomplished the object for which it was originated, namely, the liquidation of the floating debt of the Church.

The revenue of the Church is now sufficient to meet the current expenses, with the exception of the annual ground rent and the premium upon it, amounting to \$921 00. I would earnestly recommend that in future this amount be provided for by subscriptions instead of as formerly by Church Collections,

and to this end I would suggest that the amount heretofore subscribed to the Sinking Fund be devoted to this object, and I would specially request every member of the Church to subscribe something annually or semi-annually to this Ground Rent Fund.

While I sincerely congratulate the members of the Congregation upon the present gratifying condition of our finances, I trust we shall not rest satisfied until the deficiency in the general fund has been met.

Although several of our active and valued communicants have been removed from the Church militant to the Church triumphant, yet we have as a Congregation been remarkably spared from the pestilence that has been raging with such unusual mortality during the past winter. It becomes us to sing and give thanks "to the Lord who has kept us alive." "May our hearts be duly impressed with a sense of God's merciful goodness, and may we devote the residue of our days to an humble, holy and obedient walking before Him through Jesus Christ, our Lord."

I cannot bring this Annual Report to a close without acknowledging your kindness and sympathy for me during my severe illness. I feel that my life has been spared ONLY in answer to your earnest prayers on my behalf. I am not insensible either to your affection or the mercy of our Heavenly Father in thus far restoring my health. I regard it as a token of His paternal care that the Congregation has been kept in the same united and flourishing condition in my absence, as when I have been with you.

I had hoped ere this to have resumed my work, but this hope has thus far been disappointed. I desire to bow submissively under this trying and mysterious dispensation. In the mean time cease not to pray for me that when I return I may come unto you "in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ." Affectionately,

Your Friend and Pastor,

CHARLES E. MURRAY.

